

Message Text

SECRET

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E.O. 11652: XGDS-1

TAGS: PARM

SUBJECT: AMBASSADOR JOHNSON'S STATEMENT OF MARCH 17, 1976
(SALT TWO-937)

THE FOLLOWING IS STATEMTN DELIVERED BY AMBASSADOR JOHNSON
AT THE SALT TWO MEETING OF MARCH 17, 1976.

STATEMENT BY AMBASSADOR JOHNSON
MARCH 17, 1976

MR. MINISTER,

I

SINCE THE RESUMPTION OF WORK IN JANUARY, THE DELEGATIONS
HAVE DEVOTED CONSIDERABLE TIME TO THE ISSUES RELATED TO
LIMITING SILO LAUNCHER VOLUME. WE HAVE SOUGHT MUTUALLY
ACCEPTABLE LANGUAGE TO IMPLEMENT DISCUSSIONS IN MOSCOW ON

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THIS SUBJECT. THE DRAFTING WORKING GROUP RECENTLY REACHED

AGREEMENT AD REFERENDUM TO CHIEFS OF DELEGATION ON TEXTS FOR
PARAGRAPH 4 OF ARTICLE IV AND THE ACCOMPANYING AGREED STATEMENT
AND COMMON UNDERSTANDING, AS FOLLOWS:

ARTICLE IV

4. THE PARTIES UNDERTAKE IN THE PROCESS OF MODERNIZATION
AND REPLACEMENT OF ICBM SILO LAUNCHERS NOT TO INCREASE THE
ORIGINAL INTERNAL VOLUME OF AN ICBM SILO LAUNCHER BY MORE THAN
32 PERCENT. WITHIN THIS LIMIT EACH PARTY SHALL BE FREE TO
DETERMINE WHETHER SUCH AN INCREASE WILL BE MADE THROUGH AN
INCREASE IN THE ORIGINAL INTERNAL DIAMETER OR IN THE ORIGINAL
INTERNAL DEPTH OF AN ICBM SILO LAUNCHER, OR IN BOTH THESE
DIMENSIONS.

AGREED STATEMENT

THE PARTIES AGREE THAT THE WORD "ORIGINAL" IN PARAGRAPH 4
OF ARTICLE IV REFERS TO THE INTERNAL DIMENSIONS OF AN ICBM SILO
LAUNCHER, INCLUDING ITS INTERNAL VOLUME, AS OF MAY 26, 1972, OR
THE DATE ON WHICH SUCH LAUNCHER BECOMES OPERATIONAL, WHICHEVER
IS LATER.

COMMON UNDERSTANDING

THE OBLIGATIONS PROVIDED FOR IN PARAGRAPH 4 OF ARTICLE IV
AND IN THE AGREED STATEMENT THERETO MEAN THAT THE ORIGINAL
INTERNAL DIAMETER OR THE ORIGINAL INTERNAL DEPTH OF AN ICBM
SILO LAUNCHER MAY NOT BE INCREASED BY AN AMOUNT GREATER THAN
THAT WHICH WOULD RESULT IN AN INCREASE IN THE ORIGINAL INTERNAL
VOLUME OF THE ICBM SILO LAUNCHER BY 32 PERCENT SOLELY THROUGH
AN INCREASE IN ONE OF THESE DIMENSIONS.

I PROPOSE THAT AS CHIEFS OF DELEGATION WE NOW AGREE TO THESE
TEXTS AD REFERENDUM TO GOVERNMENTS.

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GIVEN OUR AGREEMENT OF FEBRUARY 10, CONCERNING PARAGRAPH 4
OF ARTICLE IV AND THE DEFINITION OF A HEAVY ICBM, I NOW HOPE WE
CAN REACH AGREEMENT ON THIS DEFINITION.

AS YOU KNOW MR. MINISTER, WE BELIEVE IT IS ESSENTIAL ALSO
TO LIMIT THE DESTRUCTIVE POTENTIAL OF HEAVY ICBMS. I, THEREFORE,
HOPE WE CAN PROMPTLY REACH AGREEMENT ON PARAGRAPH 7 OF ARTICLE IV.

JOHSON

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